

What is claimed is:

1. A method of controlling a menu of a digital camera, the method comprising:

5 comparing a number of uses value for each menu item to a reference number;

determining a display order of the menu items according to the result of the comparison;

10 displaying the menu items according to the display order;

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining whether a menu item is selected by the user among the displayed menu items;

15 increasing the number of uses value for the selected menu item; and

storing the number of uses value.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein during the display order determination step, the set display order is not changed when a menu item having the number of uses which is greater than the reference number does not exist.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein during the display order determination step, when a menu item has a number of uses value greater than the reference number, the display order of the menu items is changed according to the order of the number of uses.

5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein during the display order determination step, the menu items with number of uses greater than the reference number are displayed first according to the order of the number of uses and the menu items with number of uses less than the reference number are displayed without a change in the display order adjacent to the menu items with number of uses greater than the reference number.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reference number can be set by the user.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reference number is preset to a default value.

8. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reference number and menu order may be different for different operating modes.

9. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first displayed menu item is initially active during the display operation.

10. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the stored number of uses values may be altered by the user.

11. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the menu order is immediately updated after a menu item is selected.

12. A method of controlling a menu of a digital camera, the method comprising:

comparing the number of uses of the menu items to be displayed with a reference number;

determining whether a menu item will be initially active from among the menu items to be displayed according to the result of the comparison step;

displaying the menu items and activating the initial active menu item from among the displayed menu items;

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

determining whether a menu item is selected by the user among the displayed menu items;

increasing the number of uses value of a selected menu item when the menu item is selected; and

storing the number of uses value.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining whether a menu item will be initially active further comprises:

when there is no number of uses value of a menu item greater than the reference number, not changing which menu item is initially active.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining whether a menu item will be initially active further comprises:

when at least one number of uses value of a menu item is greater than the reference number, setting the menu item having the largest number of uses value as the initially active menu item.

16. The method of claim 12, wherein the reference number can be set by the user.

5 17. The method of claim 12, wherein, the reference number is preset to a default value.

18. The method of claim 12, wherein the reference number is different for different operating modes.

10 19. The method of claim 12, wherein the stored number of uses values may be altered by the user.

20. A digital camera capable of controlling an adaptive menu, the camera comprising:

15 an image photographing portion to photograph an object;  
an image processing portion to perform predetermined image processing and output the processed digital image data;  
a recording portion to store the digital image data;  
20 a display portion to display the menu items in a display order and activate the menu items with one menu item initially active;  
an operation portion to select a menu item displayed on the display portion;  
a storage portion which is non-volatile and stores number of uses values of the menu items; and  
25 a control portion to set at least one of either the display order of the menu items or the initially active menu item, according to the number of uses of the menu items.

30 21. The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the operation portion comprises directional movement buttons to allow selection of the menu items displayed on the display portion to the upper, lower, left, and right sides of the initially active menu item and a selection button to select the menu item.

35 22. The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control portion changes the display order of the menu items according to the size order of the number of uses values.

23. The apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein the control portion changes the display order of the menu items according to the size order of the number of uses values only when a menu item's number of uses value is greater than a reference number.

5

24. The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control portion determines the initially active menu item to be the menu item with the largest number of uses value.

10

25. The apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control portion determines the initially active menu item according to the size of the number of uses value only when a menu item's number of uses value is greater than a reference number.